
SENATE BILL 5074

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Senators Honeyford, Poulsen, Schoesler and Delvin

Read first time 01/10/2007. Referred to Committee on Water, Energy & Telecommunications.

1 AN ACT Relating to watershed planning; and amending RCW 90.82.060.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 90.82.060 and 2003 c 328 s 1 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) Planning conducted under this chapter must provide for a
6 process to allow the local citizens within a WRIA or multi-WRIA area to
7 join together in an effort to: (a) Assess the status of the water
8 resources of their WRIA or multi-WRIA area; and (b) determine how best
9 to manage the water resources of the WRIA or multi-WRIA area to balance
10 the competing resource demands for that area within the parameters
11 under RCW 90.82.120.

12 (2)(a) Watershed planning under this chapter may be initiated for
13 a WRIA only with the concurrence of: ~~((a))~~ (i) All counties within
14 the WRIA; ~~((b))~~ (ii) the largest city or town within the WRIA unless
15 the WRIA does not contain a city or town; and ~~((c))~~ (iii) the water
16 supply utility obtaining the largest quantity of water from the WRIA
17 or, for a WRIA with lands within the Columbia Basin project, the water
18 supply utility obtaining from the Columbia Basin project the largest
19 quantity of water for the WRIA. To apply for a grant for organizing

1 the planning unit as provided for under RCW 90.82.040(2)(a), these
2 entities shall designate the entity that will serve as the lead agency
3 for the planning effort and indicate how the planning unit will be
4 staffed.

5 (b) For purposes of this chapter, WRIA 40 shall be divided such
6 that the portion of the WRIA located entirely within the Stemilt and
7 Squilchuck subbasins shall be considered WRIA 40a and the remaining
8 portion shall be considered WRIA 40b. Planning may be conducted
9 separately for WRIA 40a and 40b. WRIA 40a shall be eligible for one-
10 fourth of the funding available for a single WRIA, and WRIA 40b shall
11 be eligible for three-fourths of the funding available for a single
12 WRIA.

13 (c) For purposes of this chapter, WRIA 29 shall be divided such
14 that the portion of the WRIA located entirely within the White Salmon
15 subbasin and the subbasins east thereof shall be considered WRIA 29b
16 and the remaining portion shall be considered WRIA 29a. Planning may
17 be conducted separately for WRIA 29a and 29b. WRIA 29a shall be
18 eligible for the full amount of the funding available for a single WRIA
19 and WRIA 29b shall be eligible for one-half of the funding available
20 for a single WRIA or eligible for funding as an additional WRIA if
21 added to the planning process for WRIA 30.

22 (3) Watershed planning under this chapter may be initiated for a
23 multi-WRIA area only with the concurrence of: (a) All counties within
24 the multi-WRIA area; (b) the largest city or town in each WRIA unless
25 the WRIA does not contain a city or town; and (c) the water supply
26 utility obtaining the largest quantity of water in each WRIA.

27 (4) If entities in subsection (2) or (3) of this section decide
28 jointly and unanimously to proceed, they shall invite all tribes with
29 reservation lands within the management area.

30 (5) The entities in subsection (2) or (3) of this section,
31 including the tribes if they affirmatively accept the invitation,
32 constitute the initiating governments for the purposes of this section.

33 (6) The organizing grant shall be used to organize the planning
34 unit and to determine the scope of the planning to be conducted. In
35 determining the scope of the planning activities, consideration shall
36 be given to all existing plans and related planning activities. The
37 scope of planning must include water quantity elements as provided in
38 RCW 90.82.070, and may include water quality elements as contained in

1 RCW 90.82.090, habitat elements as contained in RCW 90.82.100, and
2 instream flow elements as contained in RCW 90.82.080. The initiating
3 governments shall work with state government, other local governments
4 within the management area, and affected tribal governments, in
5 developing a planning process. The initiating governments may hold
6 public meetings as deemed necessary to develop a proposed scope of work
7 and a proposed composition of the planning unit. In developing a
8 proposed composition of the planning unit, the initiating governments
9 shall provide for representation of a wide range of water resource
10 interests.

11 (7) Each state agency with regulatory or other interests in the
12 WRIA or multi-WRIA area to be planned shall assist the local citizens
13 in the planning effort to the greatest extent practicable, recognizing
14 any fiscal limitations. In providing such technical assistance and to
15 facilitate representation on the planning unit, state agencies may
16 organize and agree upon their representation on the planning unit.
17 Such technical assistance must only be at the request of and to the
18 extent desired by the planning unit conducting such planning. The
19 number of state agency representatives on the planning unit shall be
20 determined by the initiating governments in consultation with the
21 governor's office.

22 (8) As used in this section, "lead agency" means the entity that
23 coordinates staff support of its own or of other local governments and
24 receives grants for developing a watershed plan.

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